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THE BULLETIN OF THE

REPORT OF MISS KATHERINE GIBSON

ACTING ASSISTANT IN CHARGE OF THE EDUCATIONAL WORK
SUBMITTED AT THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING, JUNE 7, 1917

WORK PREVIOUS TO THE OPENING OF THE MUSEUM

The groundwork of the Educational Department was laid during the winter previous to the opening of the Museum. All subsequent development has been the direct result of the activities of those eight months. The time was devoted largely to talks in schools, clubs and libraries throughout the city, with the purpose of familiarizing as many types of people and kinds of organizations as possible with the Museum idea, and of arousing interest and enthusiasm in its direction. The exhibit extension work with libraries was begun, and plans for library and school coöperation well worked out.

SUMMER WORK

The summer work in the Museum was largely introductory in its character. The Department was confronted by the problem of handling frequent and large groups of people who were absolutely unfamiliar with any museum. These came with no other idea than to see "the new building in Wade Park," and were often quite dazed by its size and beauty. When possible, such groups were met by a docent and given at least a slight point of contact with some phase of a collection. The attempt was not so much to give definite information as a conception of the way to approach the Museum. Talks of a different character were given to those coming with more specialized interests.

The Art School began to make use of the Museum almost immediately after its opening. Classes were brought by their instructors in order that they might become familiar with the possibilities offered by the various collections in the galleries, and individual students soon arrived, sketch-book in hand. Classes from the Summer Normal School were held in the Museum and the Lecture Hall was used by them for lectures. A great many children came to the galleries. In some cases groups came once, or twice a week, asking for what they called "stories." This was particularly true of the small citizens of "Little Italy." By the summer's end some of them had established a real proprietary interest in the Museum.

WINTER ACTIVITIES

Work with Adults. The winter activities, resulting from the year of preparatory work, settled early in the fall into fairly well-defined channels. Classes and clubs of adults began meeting in the Conference Room. The only restriction placed upon such clubs was that they discuss an art subject on the day of their meeting in the Museum. Altogether about forty-two clubs have held meetings in the Museum, their aggregate attendance being 685. In some cases the programme was carried on by the club it-

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

self; in others a talk was given by a member of the Museum staff. In addition to work with clubs, groups have been conducted through the galleries during the winter in response to requests for such appointments. Gallery talks have been held on Sunday afternoons from October to the middle of May. In these an attempt has been made to acquaint the public with the various types of collections in the Museum. The talks have been conducted by volunteer docents. The Museum is especially indebted to the Cleveland School of Art for its cordial coöperation in this direction. An informal connection has also been made by the Museum with the College for Women. During the winter, students from classes in Mediæval History came for talks on the art of that period. Classes in English have drawn inspiration for daily themes from the Sunday afternoon gallery talks. Also students from the French Department have come with their instructors for talks in French on Rodin and the Luxembourg exhibits.

Work with Children. The main channel for work with children has been the result of school coöperation. Early in the fall a statement was sent throughout the schools under the joint signatures of the Superintendent of Schools and the Director of the Museum, authorizing principals to send pupils to the Museum during school hours. As a result about 266 classes have come for work with history, geography, English, etc. Often classes have come simply "to see the Museum." In the latter case a definite group of material was selected, often by the children themselves, for a gallery talk. The collections most used have been the armor, the Egyptian, and the tapestry. The classical material in the rotunda has proved of great value. The picture galleries have been little used by the schools, as the demand from teachers in this field has been surprisingly slight. The Oriental department is also largely an undiscovered country.

In addition to talks in the galleries, there has been from the first a number of classes from the grades and high schools drawing in the Museum. The grade-work was organized the first part of the year by Miss Helen Fliedner, Supervisor of Drawing in the Public Schools. One class a day is sent to the Museum for a drawing lesson from Museum material. The lesson is given by one of the four district supervisors in the presence of the class teacher. The sixth and seventh grades work with pottery forms; the eighth grade with textiles. The children are given a preliminary talk in the class-room on the material they are to draw from, and after the drawing-lesson is over are shown objects in the Museum following up the class-room work. In connection with textiles the tapestries are shown to the children. The pottery used in the drawing lesson is largely primitive and leads naturally to the examples of primitive pottery in the galleries—the Egyptian and early Cypriote.

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LECTURES

During the winter a series of lectures has been held for members of the Museum. Lectures open to the public have also been given under the joint auspices of the Museum and such organizations as the McBride Lecture Fund, and the Principals' and School Arts Club, the Geographical Society, etc. Special evenings have been devoted to groups from The H. Black Company, Cleveland Trust Club, East Technical High School, The Halle Brothers Company, etc. There has been a series of Saturday afternoon programmes for children. They have been open to all children of school age and have proved popular, at times to a somewhat overwhelming degree. In these programmes the department has boldly attacked the problem of motion-pictures in their relation to educational work. This has been done at times at the expense of a real connection with material in the galleries. The experiment was tried with the idea of finding out what possibilities the field offers and how to use the little material now available, and has proved to be a valuable addition to the year's work. However, the afternoons have by no means been confined to such experiments, and more and more the Museum connection has become the controlling feature.

EXTENSION WORK

Before the opening of the Museum a series of exhibits was prepared for the Branch Libraries. These exhibits consist of material of two types; that which leads back to the Art Museum, and that which connects more directly with the Children's Museum, a development still in the future. There is a need at present for more art material, in order to keep the chief emphasis at that point. The exhibits are accompanied by diaries descriptive of the material and its background, and by a map and mounts showing the country of which the objects are the product. When the exhibits are installed the children gather around the case and are given an informal talk about the material. This coöperation with the libraries has shown itself to have such possibilities that a new member of the staff has recently been appointed to take charge of this work.

OUTSIDE COÖPERATION

The spirit of the Educational Department during this first year has been largely that of an experimental station. What it has actually been able to accomplish has been due to the cordial coöperation met on all sides. The department especially wishes to express its sincere appreciation of the responsive attitude shown by the superintendent, supervisors, principals, and teachers of the public schools, and of the generous service rendered it by the staff of the Cleveland Public Library. The work of the Educational Department has been the work of all of the departments in the Museum, so unstintingly has the entire staff given of its time and strength.

CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

STATISTICS

Exhibit Extension Work

Exhibits in Libraries and Schools:

November 1, 1915-June 1, 1917 (winter only)	15
In constant use	10
Assembled in response to special needs	5
Installations	93
Numbers addressed on subject of said exhibits, approximately	2,190

Clubs

Clubs meeting in Museum since September, 1916	42
Aggregate attendance	685

Classes from Schools

Classes working in Museum since September, 1916	351
Aggregate attendance	8,434

Docent Service

Sunday Gallery talks (30 weeks):

Average attendance	890
Taken only of those who remained through the entire talk.	
Week-day docent service since June 7, 1916	9,445
Total Docent attendance	10,335

Saturday Programmes for Children

October 28, 1916-April 28, 1917, attendance	7,580
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Lectures for Adults

Adult lectures (44 lectures) attendance	9,453
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Total Lecture Attendance

Children and Adult	16,933
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REPORT OF MR. LANGDON WARNER

IN CHARGE OF FIELD WORK

SUBMITTED AT THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING, JUNE 7, 1917

In June, 1915, I received an appointment to the staff of the Museum, with the understanding that the duties of my position were to include collection of objects in the Far Eastern field by excavation, and that while in this country I should be engaged on publication of Museum and other material and should at the same time hold myself ready for occasional work in Cleveland and for the examination of objects offered for purchase and gift.

In August, 1915, I was despatched to England and France to make special purchases for the Worcester R. Warner Fund. The result was that in a short time two large pieces of Chinese stone sculpture of the first importance were secured, and an interesting series of T'ang Chinese buckles together with a curiously similar set of Merovingian date which had shortly before been excavated from Craonne, in France.